



EWA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 23

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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DRAFT - MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2008 EWA BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Hargrave called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. with a quorum of six members present. NOTE: This eleven member Board requires six (6) votes to adopt a motion.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Monique Akaka, Gary Bautista, Tom Berg, Clint Gueso, Rich Hargrave, and Kurt Fevella.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Scott Belford, Mitchell Tynanes, Philip Dowland, Dick Beamer.

GUESTS: David and Denise Oliveira (Action on the Plains), Gilberto Galarzo (Action on the Plains), Brad Hayes (Naval Air Museum), Michael Gerakas, Annabel Gottlieb (Hawaii Medical Center), Sgt. M. Kiyuna and Lt. M. Johnson (Honolulu Police Department, Kapolei – District 8), C.C. Curry, Tracy Omori and Cindy Ramirez (Councilmember Todd Apo's Office), Joyce Oliveira, Rae Gee, and Cyndi Aylett (Mayor's Office), Sharene Saito Tam (Haseko), Gary Omori, Representative Kymberly Pine, Tesha Malama, Deb Luning (Gentry Homes), John Ben (Save Ewa Field), Roger and Celeste Lacueste, Alvin and Kathy Sniffen, Keith Steadman, Tommy Johnson (Governor's Office), Ilalo Parayno, Lance Arakawa, Coby Lynn, Ariel DeJesus, Glenn Oamilda, Henry Chang Wo, Nola J. Frank (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

VACANT SEATS: One at-large seat.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS: The roll call of Board members was administered with six members present (Akaka, Bautista, Berg, Gueso, Hargrave, Fevella,).

CONDUCT OF BOARD MEETING: Sgt.-at-Arms Gueso read the protocol for the meeting and Board time-limit policy, and order and decorum which is printed at the top of the agenda.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR – Bautista nominated Fevella. There being no other nominations, by unanimous consent Fevella was elected Vice Chair. Vice Chair Fevella thanked Rae Gee of the Mayor's Office for providing refreshments.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Review and Acceptance of the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 12 2008: Chair Hargrave announced that the June 12, 2008 regular meeting minutes have been deferred until the August meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Board member Bautista reported for the month of June 2008, expenses in the Operating Account for the year was \$806.64, leaving a balance of \$709.42; Publicity Account expenditures were \$675 (three months) for videotaping leaving the balance at \$405.00; and no expenditures in the Refreshment Account leaving the balance at \$120.00.

Board Vacancy – Chair Hargrave announced that the Board would be filling one vacancy this evening and had received two resignations from Board members after tonight's agenda was mailed out. The two vacancies would be put on the August agenda. The floor was opened for nominations.

Fevella nominated Celeste Lacueste; Bautista nominated Ariel DeJesus; Berg nominated CC Curry; resident Gilberto Galarzo volunteered to fill the vacancy. Without objection, nominations were closed. Each nominee gave a short background and interests about themselves. Chair Hargrave explained that a roll call vote would be taken for each nominee. The neighborhood assistant explained that each nominee would be voted on individually. Bautista asked as previously done, could the Board member give the name of the person he/she is voting for. A comment was that Lacueste was not present at this time.

The Board took a five minutes recess for clarification regarding the voting process.



Fevella raised a point of order noting that Lacueste was enroute to the meeting. Chair Hargrave accepted the point of order and said that there are six Board members present this evening and six votes would be needed for any motion to be adopted suggesting that this item be deferred until later in the meeting. There were no objections.

Board Approval for Facility Usage Fee – This matter was previously resolved and discussion was not necessary.

REPORTS:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD): Captain Dwayne Lee reported:

- Statistics for the month of June included 6 structure, 4 wildland, 4 rubbish, 2 vehicle fires, 87 medical, 22 miscellaneous, and 1 major incident with 16 companies responding (2 house fires on Waimomona Place).
- Fire Safety Tip: With our island keiki on summer break, this is an opportune time to review your home surroundings for potentially dangerous situations. Take the time to childproof your home. Check for situations that may cause electrical shock, accidental falls, and/or poisoning from unsecured medications, cleaning products, and/or houseplants. Ensure swimming pools are properly fenced and gated. An alarm on the door from the house to the pool can help prevent unattended keiki from drowning. Keep matches and lighters in a safe, secured place away from children.

Honolulu Police Department (HPD): Lt. Johnson reported the following:

- Statistics for the month of June included 1 murder, 0 manslaughter, 1 sex assault, 2 robberies, 21 burglaries, 11 UEMV (unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle), 16 auto thefts, 21 thefts, 26 property damage, and 65 motor vehicle collisions.
- Citizens Patrol Team Message of the Month: All Neighborhood Security Watch members and families are invited to National Night Out, Friday, August 8, 2008, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., at The Boys and Girls Club of Ewa Beach (91-884 Fort Weaver Road). To RSVP contact Officer Michael Kahikina at 692-4248.

Questions, comments, concerns: It was noted that the UEMV actual count should read 23.

Ewa Weed & Seed Unit (HPD): Sgt. Edgar Namoca circulated the monthly statistics report and was available for questions. Vice Chair Fevella thanked Major Moses, Sgt. Kaneha and his crew for the assisting with the July 3 clean-up.

Board of Water Supply (BWS): Cal Sueoka reported the following:

- The 20th Annual Halawa Xeriscape Garden Open House & Unthirsty Plant Sale, Saturday, August 2, 2008, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Halawa Xeriscape Garden, 99-1268 Iwaena Street. Parking on Iwaena & `Iwa`iwa Street; carpooling is encouraged. Log on to www.boardofwatersupply.com for more information.
- Brochures on water conservation efforts were circulated.
- Awaiting an answer to a question posed regarding developers workers tapping into the temporary fire hydrants, and to check if meters are attached to those fire hydrants.

Questions, comments, concerns: Relative to the temporary fire hydrants, it was asked specifically how much daily water usage is the developers using from the hydrants. Follow up will be done.

Military: No representative was present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Newsletter 96706 is requesting articles from the community; email actionontheplains@hotmail.com.
- Office of Elections is seeking Precinct Officials to assist voters in your community on Saturday, September 20, 2008 and Tuesday, November 4, 2008. Please contact Office of Elections at 453-VOTE (8683), ask for Precinct Operations, or sign-up online at www.hawaii.gov/elections. Stipend provided.

- Tesha Malama reported over 400 rides taken on the Kalaeloa Advisory Team (KAT) shuttle since June. They are currently working on the lights.
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The order of agenda resumed to item 5.C. Board Vacancy.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Board Vacancy – Chair Hargrave reiterated that the nominees are Celeste Lacueste, Ariel DeJesus, CC Curry, and Gilberto Galarzo.

Vote 1 - **A roll call vote was taken resulting in Lacueste 3-3-0; DeJesus 4-2-0; Curry 1-5-0; Galarzo 0-0-0.** Galarzo specifically asked why he received no votes. DeJesus and Curry withdrew their nominations. Discussion ensued if a nominee receives no votes is the process of elimination of does the vote continue. Clarification on this matter was that voting for each nominee continues.

Vote 2 – Nominees to fill the vacancy are Celeste Lacueste and Gilberto Galarzo. **A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Lacueste 5** (Akaka, Gueso, Bautista, Fevella, Hargrave) **and Galarzo 1** (Berg). **The motion was not adopted.** Chair Hargrave noted that since there are not enough votes for one nominee to fill the vacancy this matter would be placed on the August agenda.

PUBLIC GENERATED ISSUES/COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Honowai Street Intersection Merge with Kunia Road – Berg requested to that the history (2002-2003) regarding a stoplight for the Honowai Street intersections merge with Kunia Road deemed not warranted due to lack of vehicular traffic be revisited. Fevella stated Berg was previously told that a traffic signal at that intersection is not warranted, and asked when had that changed. This issue was referred to DOT Director Morioka.

Moi Fish Traps at One`ula Beach Park (Hau Bush) – A resident reported large moi fish traps at Hau Bush; however, the moi fish season is closed. The cages were described as wide as football fields. It was stated that there are more cages than allowed, and the moi fingerlings are being sold overseas.

Nine Acres of Beach Front Property – A question was asked if a unilateral agreement has been reached with Haseko to transfer the nine acres of beach front property for golfing permits; and if three acres were given to the private sector. Chair Hargrave referred this matter to committee. Sharene Saito Tam representing Haseko clarified that the nine acres of land is still scheduled to happen sometime in the next year when the golf course is open. Fevella will follow up.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FORT WEAVER ROAD BUS SHELTER RELOCATION UPDATE – Brennon Morioka, Director of the State Department of Transportation, reported the following: One bus shelter at the intersection of Iroquois Point and Geiger Road will be relocated from the near side to the far side; and one bus shelter at the intersection of Kolowaka Street and Fort Weaver Road will be relocated for pedestrian safety. A near side bus stop is one where the crosswalk is in front of the bus stop and the far side is past the crosswalk (behind the bus). Widening of the roadway with an additional right turn lane would be added with pull-out pockets. This relocation complies with the National policies and guidelines, and supported by the Transportation Reserve Board.

Questions, comments, concerns:

1. A comment was that the Wahineomao bus stop at Geiger Shopping Center has served the community for 20 years and continues to do so. A petition in opposition is being circulated in the community that the relocation issue be revisited. In response, re-locating a bus stop is not just black and white. Morioka's understanding was that the community opposed the wall. It was also noted that several community meetings were held.
2. A question was posed as to how many fatalities and incidents occurred at that intersection in the last 20 years. A Board member stated there being only one fatality and fifteen out of control cars in the last 20 years. Re-locating this bus stop will be an inconvenience to the community (a death trap waiting to happen).

3. Pedestrians need to be kept off the street while going to the bus stop. In response, Morioka noted that safety is never sacrificed.
4. A comment was that a unanimous vote was taken by the Board in opposition to re-locating the bus stops. However, if the move was just a small one DOT would have just done it.
5. A letter back in a 2007 relating to a study about bus stop replacement indicated that re-locating bus stops to the far side is not recommended because drivers are looking at on-coming cars not pedestrians. Morioka disagreed.
6. A resident noted that the City recommended that the bus stops remain where they are at the commercial center. He was told that the City has no standard on bus stop moving; and Geiger Road was never made for a bus stop.
7. Senator Espero noted that this community has had previous battles with DOT regarding safety measures. This community is asking about national standards and guidelines; and that the community is 100% against the re-location. DOT has always been open to change and that the matter is not for convenience, but safety.
8. Mayor's representative Oliveiro noted this is a State project and the City has taken no position on the issue.
9. A member of the audience stated that this Board took a position for the bus stops to remain at their present location and asked that pedestrian safety be proven by the State. Morioka said that he was present tonight at the request of the Board to provide for safety reasons why the far side is far superior versus the near side for bus stops.
10. The current buses slows down the right lane of traffic allowing drivers to exit the Foodland parking lot, merge and turn right onto Ft. Weaver Road. That condition would not remain with the widening of Ft. Weaver Road.
11. Chair Hargrave said he appreciated Morioka coming out to the meeting, and the purpose was to bring information to the community.

Fevella moved, seconded by Gueso that the Ewa Neighborhood Board No. 23 requests that the re-location of this bus stop be totally removed from the existing plan. The motion to remove this bus stop from the existing plan was adopted unanimously, 6-0-0 (Fevella, Berg, Bautista, Hargrave, Akaka, Gueso). Berg will assist Chair Hargrave with drafting a letter to the Governor and DOT.

Governor's Linda Lingle's Representative - Morioka reporting for Tommy Johnson responses to previously DOT concerns:

1. The fence fronting the golf course is owned by Prince Golf Course, , that stretch of road is maintained by DOT and is scheduled to be cut next week using in-house crews taking three to four weeks to complete.
2. Governor Lingle sent a letter to the Land Use Commission requesting that a stoplight at the Honowai Street intersection never be installed. However, it is not believe that kind of commitment can be made because at sometime in the future a stoplight may be warranted. There are no plans for removal of a barrier at that location. Due to a much wider network of roads in the future, a study would be needed because transportation is forever changing. An ongoing request has been raised for sometime for restriping. DOT would like to evaluate the community because any changes may have an impact. Presentations on this issue would be made to this Board and the Waipahu Neighborhood Board No. 22 at a future meeting. Morioka reiterated that a stoplight is not warranted and modifications would be made to access the area. Follow up will be done as to why the stoplight at Honowai Street is not warranted.
3. It was requested that a draft letter be sent DOT noting if the re-location of the bus stop is warranted that all liabilities be relinquished from DOT to be combined with the letter to remove the bus relocation from the DOT plan.

Ft. Weaver Road Update – According to the schedule, the road will be opened upon completion of segments: Aawa Road to Old Ft. Weaver Road, January 2009, Renton Road, April 2009, with completion in August of 2009. Questions regarding this matter may be sent to DOT or Chair Hargrave for referral.

Questions, comments, concerns: It was reported that the stretch of contra-flow on Ft. Weaver road is too short to make a difference, and suggested that the contra-flow start at Renton Road to Laulaunui Street.) Follow up with the project manager will be done regarding upon entering Ewa Beach due to the contra-flow traffic is backed up to the freeway.

NEW BUSINESS:

STOP Speeding for Resident Safety in Ewa Neighborhoods – Matthew Hobbs gave a power point presentation highlighting safety issues such as no trees fronting the residences located right off the roadway, speeding, safety; and suggested some type of traffic calming device for Kapolei Parkway.

Berg moved, seconded by Fevella that a letter be sent to Council member Todd Apo regarding the language in the petition of Resolution 148, relating to the City's Traffic Calming program.

Discussion followed: 1) Students from Keone`ula Elementary Schools living at Ocean Point would have to cross Kapolei Parkway to reach home. It was noted that would be one half to three-quarters of a mile from the Kapolei Parkway crosswalk to their homes. 2) It was reiterated to include the community if and when choosing a traffic calming device. 3) Suggested was to solicit all communities with traffic issues and address the City with the problems. Chair Hargrave noted that the agenda item is specific to Ewa. 4) A comment was that there are many types of traffic calming technology and per Council member Apo should be adjusted to fit the community. 5) A three-dimensional high-technology picture in the road was suggested. 6) Mayor's representative Oliveira said that the Department of Transportation Services (DTS) met with developers Haseko and Gentry and are looking at some suggested alternatives which will require a study and additional traffic counts. **The motion that letter be sent to Council member Todd Apo regarding the language in the petition in support of Resolution 148, relating to the City's Traffic Calming program was adopted unanimously** (Fevella, Berg, Bautista, Hargrave, Akaka, Gueso).

"Slow Down" Sign Waiving tomorrow, Kapolei Parkway at 3:30 p.m. was announced.

Without objection the agenda was taken out of order to 11. Reports by Elected Officials, item A. Mayor's Representative.

REPORTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Mufi Hannemann's Representative – Joyce Oliveira introduced Rae Gee (Special Assistant to the Mayor) and Cyndy Aylett (Executive Assistant to the Mayor/Performance Management Office - PMO) and said that she would be giving for their report.

Cyndy Aylett reported a 2005 Mayor's review was conducted to verify the competency or not of the City's affordable rental units. Recommendations were non-profit and private entities to take care of the affordable housing. An example given was the Kulana Nani apartments in Kaneohe (116 units) on land leased from Kamehameha Schools. There is no comprehensive time table for all the affordable housing. The process is slow and information will be directly to the residents. To qualify an applicant's income must be 50% of the average medium income.

Questions, comments, concerns: 1) It was not know of any open area around the Ewa Villages. e) Reported that only West Loch Villages (only elderly housing) has filed a lawsuit against the City, and has been asking the Board to be put on the agenda to do a ten-minute presentation. Several federal agencies have been contacted. Stated it would be historical if a voluntary settlement would be reached with the City. 3) Chair Hargrave asked that resident Curry's concerns be addressed and to remove West Loch Villages from the affordable sale list; the Board took a position on the matter. In response, research was conducted, looking at properties to transition to those who can be up kept for the residents; specific concerns and issues. It was noted that Manoa Gardens is also for the elderly. 4) West Loch Villages was visited and the intent is to keep that level of affordability.

The agenda order resumed.

NEW BUSINESS/PRESENTATIONS:

SAVE Ewa Air Field Historical Site – Bill Hayes presented a slide show and was seeking Board support for preservation of the Ewa Air Field. **Fevella moved, seconded by Gueso in support of preserving the Ewa Air Field Historical Site. The motion was adopted unanimously, 6-0-0** (Fevella, Berg, Bautista, Hargrave, Akaka, Gueso).

10:00 p.m. N.A. Frank left the meeting; a quorum was still present and Board member Akaka will continue the minutes. 10:03 p.m. Chair Hargrave asked NA Frank to return to the table to take one more vote on the vacancy.

Vacancy, Vote 3 – A roll call vote was taken with the following results – Lacueste 5 (Akaka, Gueso, Bautista, Fevella, Hargrave) **and Galarzo 1** (Berg). **The motion failed to be adopted.** A vote of six is required for a motion to be adopted

NA Frank left the meeting at 10:15 p.m.; Board member Akaka continued the minutes for the remainder of the meeting.

REPORTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Mufi Hannemann’s Representative – Joyce Oliveira informed the Board and community on a new program “Hoapaka” which recognizes individuals that have worked on various projects. Also shared about Honolulu Forever Young Award, requirement is 65 years young, and deadline for nominations is August 1, 2008.

Questions, comments, concerns: 1) Follow up will be done about the condition of the road fronting Ewa Beach Elementary School. 2) Follow up will be done regarding a request for a bus stop by Ewa Villages, Lokahi Greens residents.

Council Member Todd Apo – Tracy Omori circulated the written report and was available for questions. A request was posed asking the Council member not to give up asking about a Farrington Highway flyover to U.H.

Representative Rida Cabanilla – Rep. Cabanilla referred to her written report. Ewa issues can be viewed on channel 54 at 7:00 p.m.

Senator Will Espero – The Senator reviewed his report.

Representative Kymberly Pine - Rep. Pine made recommendations to the Board and community to entertain getting solar due to rising oil prices. She is entertaining “stop rail” and explained why. In response as to where Hawaii gets its gas from, we don’t get it from the same place as the mainland. Shared was how the gas cap makes gas prices rise. Regarding the crack spread in reference to gas a request was made that research be done.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Hargrave adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Submitted by:
Nola J. Frank, Neighborhood Assistant

Monique Akaka,
Board member

Reviewed by:
Rich Hargrave, Chair